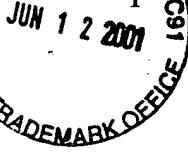


Applicant: Gage et al.
Application No.: 09/421,971
Filed: October 20, 1999

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: SALK2350
(Foley No. 088802.5351)

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JUN 12 2001



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gage et al.

Title: HORMONE RECEPTOR
FUNCTIONAL DIMERS AND
METHODS OF THEIR USE

Appl. No.: 09/421,971

Filing Date: October 20, 1999

Examiner: J. Murphy

Art Unit: 1646

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

#7
S.J.G
6/16/01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below.	
<u>Stephen E. Reiter</u> (Printed Name)	
<u>Step E. R</u> (Signature)	
4/8/01 (Date of Deposit)	

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RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed May 8, 2001, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

In accordance with present invention, there are provided chimeric proteins comprising at least two functional protein units, wherein each functional unit comprises a dimerization domain of a member of the steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor superfamily. The chimeric proteins of the invention can be used in a variety of compositions and methods. For example, the chimeric proteins may be used in compositions and methods for modulating gene expression in cells and organisms; to prepare nucleic acids that encode the chimeric proteins of the invention; to produce protein crystals that are suitable for molecular structural studies,